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Capital Chatter

by Pioneer Press Washington Bureau

THE U. S. CENTRAL intelligence agency and its Soviet counterpart, the KGB, both appear to be capitalizing on the worldwide secret agent fad. For awhile it looked as if James Bond, Agent 007, was going to bring home all the bacon, but then television got into the act and the viewer is hard put to turn his dial at prime time and fail to see a spy lurking in the cold.

Hating to see all that gold go to fake spooks, the "boys in the backroom" apparently have cooked up a deal to tell real spy stories and get some money for it.

Observers here are laughing over the fact that the papers of both a former spy for the Russians, Gordon Lonsdale, and a former spy for the United States, Oleg Penkovsky, executed by the USSR in 1963, have "mysteriously appeared" and will be published soon.

CIA officials here admit they are "puzzled" but hardly perturbed that secret papers of Penkovsky have suddenly been found on the desks of Doubleday publishers. An indication that the CIA has an interest in having the Penkovsky papers published is they have not lifted a finger to stop Doubleday.

It also appears that the Russians have approved the Lonsdale papers and as everyone knows the Soviets never do something for nothing.

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